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17 May 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: ^{DEPUTY} Project Director

THROUGH : Project Director of Administration

SUBJECT : Visits to Las Vegas by Project Personnel
Stationed at Watertown StripREFERENCES : Visit to Watertown Strip 21-23 March 1956
Visit to Las Vegas by Project Personnel
Stationed at Watertown Strip

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1. In reply to your request for a formal report concerning the Security Office's views relative to Project personnel visiting Las Vegas, I wish to note that there has never been an official policy statement issued concerning this matter. Since the inception of this Project, however, it has been the view of the Security Office that it would be highly advisable to consider Las Vegas, Nevada as being off limits to all Project personnel whether they be staff or contractor. Our position on this matter has been based on the fact that publicity in that area has caused undue attention to center upon the Green Lake area. It is quite obvious that any individual arriving in Las Vegas from this area would be an excellent target for penetration attempts. It can naturally be assumed that a large collection of our personnel in that area could be damaging to the Project's activities more so than if they gathered in an area such as Los Angeles, a point somewhat far removed from our test base area.

2. A logical point for any penetration to be attempted would be either adjacent to our test area or in an area easily accessible to our test area. It is for these reasons that official visits and official business related to the Project is conducted from the Burbank and Los Angeles area in preference to Las Vegas.

3. A factor which may be added to the points outlined above is that travel from Watertown to Las Vegas would necessarily have to be by Government furnished transportation and not as an individual's personal cost. At the present time arrangements have been made to trans-

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port personnel from Watertown to Burbank for recreational purposes and the Project could be criticized for the added expense of transporting personnel to other points for anything other than official business.

4. The Security Office desires at this time, with your concurrence, that Las Vegas, Nevada continue to be a point classified as off limits except for the conduct of official business. Should you concur in this suggestion, the undersigned would be most happy to prepare a formal statement to this effect which would be issued to all Project personnel.

Project Security Officer

TMA:aml (7 May 1956)

- 1 & 2 - Addressee
- 3 - Admin
- 4 - Proj Chrono ✓
- 5 - Proj Reading
- 6 - SO Subject
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- 8 - SO (I Bldg)

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